

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims presented below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently amended) An automated method for managing a transaction
2 involving an enterprise and at least one partner in a supply chain, the method comprising:
3 receiving a request for the transaction from an end-user or the partner;
4 accessing real-time data relevant to the transaction from an existing partner
5 system;
6 generating a context for the transaction using the real-time data;
7 processing the request in the context for the transaction; ~~and~~
8 administering the transaction involving the enterprise and the at least one partner
9 in the supply chain with a network execution component;
10 initiating a workflow for the transaction at a network system responsive to
11 processing the request and further initiating at least one process manager routine for
12 managing the workflow with the end-user or the partner of said receiving step and the
13 existing partner system actively participating in sending or receiving one or more
14 messages relating to the transaction;
15 providing the workflow access to the real-time data relating to the transaction via
16 a data access layer operable to communicate with a partner coordinator component
17 integrated with an existing system of the partner;
18 communicating with the data access layer over a network domain gateway to
19 provide real-time data relevant to the transaction from the existing system of the partner
20 to the network execution component; and
21 sending or receiving one or more messages related to the transaction with a
22 transport component operable with the network domain gateway for active processing
23 between the enterprise and the at least one partner in the supply chain using the real-time
24 data for actively participating in at least one actual transaction.

1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said accessing comprises
2 communicating with a partner coordinator component integrated with the existing partner
3 system.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the real-time data comprises
2 transaction data specifying a status for the transaction.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the real-time data comprises
2 reference data relating to the partner.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein accessing comprises receiving the
2 real-time data in extensible markup language (XML) format.

1 6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising converting
2 the real-time data into a format usable by a network system, the network system operable
3 to maintain the context for the transaction.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising maintaining a context for
2 the transaction at a network system.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
2 identifying the context for the transaction based upon the request; and
3 routing the request for processing of the transaction.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising sending a response to the
2 request to the end-user or the partner.

 10. (Canceled).

1 11. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~10~~ 1, wherein the workflow
2 comprises a plurality of tasks to be performed by the enterprise or partner in order to
3 fulfill the transaction.

1 12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein processing further
2 comprises notifying the partner of any tasks to be performed by the partner.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the workflow further comprises a routing workflow for routing the request to the enterprise or the partner for performance of the tasks.

14. (Canceled).

1 15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein processing comprises alerting the
2 partner or the enterprise.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein processing comprises monitoring
2 a service level associated with the transaction.

1 17. (Currently amended) A system for managing a transaction involving an
2 enterprise and at least one partner in a supply chain, the system comprising:
3 an interface operable to receive a request for the transaction from an end-user or
4 the partner;
5 a network execution component operable to administer the transaction involving
6 the enterprise and the at least one partner in the supply chain;
7 a data access layer operable to provide the request for the transaction access to the
8 real-time data relating to the transaction operable to communicate with a partner
9 coordinator component integrated with an existing system of the partner;
10 a network domain gateway in communication with the data access layer to
11 provide real-time data relevant to the transaction from the existing system of the partner
12 to the network execution component;
13 a transport component operable with the network domain gateway to send or
14 receive one or more messages related to the transaction with the real-time data facilitating
15 active processing between the enterprise and the at least one partner in the supply chain
16 for actively participating in at least one actual transaction; and
17 a processing facility in communication with the interface, the processing facility
18 operable to access real-time data relevant to the transaction from an existing partner
19 system, the processing facility operable to generate a context for the transaction using the
20 real-time data with the end-user or the partner of said interface operable to receive the

21 request and the existing partner system actively participating in at least one actual
22 transaction, the processing facility operable to process the request in the context for the
23 transaction.

1 18. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the real-time data comprises
2 transaction data specifying a status of the transaction.

1 19. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the real-time data comprises
2 reference data relating to the partner.

1 20. (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising a database operable to
2 maintain the context for the transaction.

1 21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein said database comprises a
2 relational database.

1 22. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the real-time data is accessed in
2 extensible markup language (XML) format.

1 23. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein said processing
2 facility is operable to convert real-time data into a format usable by the system.

1 24. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the processing facility is operable
2 to send a response to the request to the end-user or the partner.

1 25. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the processing facility is operable
2 to initiate a workflow for the transaction at a network system.

1 26. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the workflow comprises a
2 plurality of tasks to be performed by the enterprise or the partner in order to fulfill the
3 transaction.

1 27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the processing facility
2 is further operable to notify the partner of any tasks to be performed by the partner.

1 28. (Previously presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the workflow further
2 comprises a routing workflow for routing the request to the enterprise or the partner for
3 performance of the tasks.

1 29. (Previously presented) The system of claim 25, wherein the processing facility
2 is further operable to initiate at least one process manager routine for managing the
3 workflow.

1 30. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein processing facility is operable to
2 alert the partner or the enterprise.

1 31. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the processing facility is operable
2 to monitor a service level associated with the transaction.

32. (Canceled).

33. (Canceled).

34. (Canceled).

35. (Canceled).

36. (Canceled).

37. (Canceled).

1 38. (Currently amended) A system for processing a transaction involving an
2 enterprise and at least one partner in a supply chain, the system comprising:
3 a database operable to store real-time data relating to the transaction;
4 at least one process workflow executing on a processing facility, the process
5 workflow operable to process the transaction; ~~and~~
6 a network execution component operable to administer the transaction involving
7 the enterprise and the at least one partner in the supply chain;

8 a data access layer operable to provide the process workflow access to the real-
9 time data relating to the transaction operable to communicate with a partner coordinator
10 component integrated with an existing system of the partner;

11 a network domain gateway in communication with the data access layer to
12 provide real-time data relevant to the transaction from the existing system of the partner
13 to the network execution component; and

14 a transport component operable with the network domain gateway to send or
15 receive one or more messages related to the transaction with the real-time data facilitating
16 active processing between the enterprise and the at least one partner in the supply chain
17 for actively participating in at least one actual transaction, thereby providing a context for
18 the transaction during processing with the partner in the supply chain actively
19 participating in at least one actual transaction.

1 39. (Original) The system of claim 38, wherein the at least one workflow
2 comprises a plurality of tasks to be performed by the enterprise or the partner in order to
3 fulfill the respective transaction.

1 40. (Original) The system of claim 38, further comprising a business data
2 manager component operable to manage the at least one process workflow.

1 41. (Previously presented) A network system for managing a supply chain, the
2 network system comprising:

3 a network execution component operable to administer a transaction involving an
4 enterprise and at least one partner in the supply chain;

5 a network domain gateway in communication with the network execution
6 component, the network domain gateway operable to communicate with a partner
7 coordinator component integrated with an existing system of the partner to provide real-
8 time data relevant to the transaction from the existing system of the partner to the
9 network execution component; and

10 a transport component operable with the network domain gateway to send or
11 receive one or more messages related to the transaction with the real-time data facilitating

12 active processing between the enterprise and the at least one partner in the supply chain
13 for actively participating in at least one actual transaction.

1 42. (Original) The network system of claim 41, wherein the network execution
2 component executes at least one process workflow operable to transform the real-time
3 data relevant to the transaction based on business rules for the supply chain.

43. (Canceled).

1 44. (Original) The network system of claim 41, wherein the network domain
2 gateway comprises a gateway router component operable to route one or more messages
3 relating to the transaction between the existing system of a partner and an existing system
4 of the enterprise.

1 45. (Original) The network system of claim 44, wherein the gateway router
2 component is operable to perform context-based routing of messages related to the
3 transaction.

1 46. (Original) The network system of claim 41, further comprising a messaging
2 system operable to generate one or more messages for the real-time data and to route the
3 messages within the network system.

1 47. (Original) The network system of claim 41, wherein the network execution
2 component is operable to manage at least one process workflow for the transaction.

1 48. (Original) The network system of claim 41, further comprising a database
2 operable to store the real-time data.

1 49. (Original) The network system of claim 48, wherein the database is operable
2 to store a context for the transaction.

1 50. (Original) The network system of claim 48, wherein the database is operable
2 to store one or more policy rules that govern the transaction.

1 51. (Currently amended) A system for managing one or more transactions
2 involving an enterprise and at least one partner in a supply chain, the system comprising:
3 a database operable to store real-time data relating to the one or more transactions,
4 the database operable to maintain a respective context for each transaction;
5 an execution process engine operable to execute a respective workflow in the
6 context for each transaction using the real-time data administering the transaction
7 involving the enterprise and the at least one partner in the supply chain;
8 a data access layer operable to provide the workflow access to the real-time data
9 relating to the transaction operable to communicate with a partner coordinator component
10 integrated with an existing system of the partner;
11 a network domain gateway in communication with the data access layer to
12 provide real-time data relevant to the transaction from the existing system of the partner
13 to the execution process engine; and
14 a transport component operable with the network domain gateway to send or
15 receive one or more messages related to the transaction with the real-time data facilitating
16 active processing between the enterprise and the at least one partner in the supply chain
17 for actively participating in at least one actual transaction; and
18 one or more process manager components operable to manage the workflow and
19 actively participating in at least one respective transaction, each workflow comprising a
20 plurality of tasks to be performed by the enterprise or the partner in order to fulfill the
21 respective transaction with the enterprise or the partner actively participating in at least
22 one actual transaction.

1 52. (Previously presented) The system of claim 51, comprising a transport
2 component operable to send or receive one or more messages related to the transaction,
3 wherein the database comprises a relational database management system providing
4 access responsive to at least one message concerning the transaction.

1 53. (Previously presented) The system of claim 51, wherein at least one business
2 object is generated for each workflow.

1 54. (Previously presented) The system of claim 53, further comprising one or
2 more business object managers operable to manage each business object.

1 55. (Previously presented) The system of claim 51, wherein each workflow
2 comprises a process for transforming the real-time data according to a business policy
3 between the enterprise and the partner.

1 56. (Previously presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the database is
2 operable to maintain one or more business policies relating to the partner.

1 57. (Previously presented) The system of claim 51, wherein execution process
2 engine comprises initiating a workflow for the transaction at a network system.

1 58. (Previously presented) The system of claim 57, wherein the one or more
2 process manager components comprises initiating at least one process manager routine
3 for managing the workflow for the transaction at the network system.

1 59. (Previously presented) The system of claim 58, wherein comprises a the one
2 or more process manager components a transport component with a network domain
3 gateway operable to send or receive one or more messages related to the transaction.